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Message Text

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43
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 USIA-06

SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 PA-01

PRS-01 /094 W
---------- 127867
R 300820Z JUL 75
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3412
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
USINT BAGHDAD

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: ENRG, KU
SUBJ: PETROLEUM INDUSTRIES COORDINATION AND SUPERVISION
COMMITTEE FORMED

REF: A. KUWAIT 2282 B. KUWAIT 2973 AND 2974

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. OIL MINISTER KAZEMI HAS ISSUED MINISTERIAL DECREE
ESTABLISHING PETROLEUM INDUSTRIES COORDINATION AND
SUPERVISION COMMITTEE (PICSC) WHICH HE WILL CHAIR. IN
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ADDITION TO MINISTER, PICSC MEMBERS INCLUDE UNDERSECRETARY

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OF OIL MAHMOUD ADESANI, PETROCHEMICALS INDUSTRIES COMPANY
CHAIRMAN ABD AL-BAQI NOURI, KNPC CHAIRMAN AHMAD MUTAIR,
KOC DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER (AND SENIOR KUWAITI) AHMAD JAAFAR,
KUWAIT GAS UTILIZATION PROJECT DIRECTOR HISHAM AL-ESSA, AND
TWO SENIOR MINISTRY OF OIL OFFICIALS, ABD AL-RAZZAK MULLA
HUSSAIN AND ABD AL-KARIM SHAWWA.

2. ACCORDING TO DECREE PICSC WILL HAVE SIX FUNCTIONS, VIZ;

A. FORMATION OF A PLAN TO IMPLEMENT THE GENERAL POLICY OF THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRIES.
B. SUPERVISING THE CREATION OF COMPANIES AND PROJECTS.
C. COORDINATION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED COMPANIES AND PROJECTS AND TAKING THE NECESSARY RESOLUTIONS OR FORWARDING THE APPREPRIATE RECOMMENDATIONS.
D. STUDYING REPORTS FROM THE SAID COMPANIES AND PROJECTS AND TAKING THE NECESSARY RESOLUTIONS OR FORWARDING THE APPROPRIATE RECOMMENDATIONS.
E. UNDERTAKING STUDIES ON PETROLEUM INDUSTRIES AND THEIR DEVELOPEMENT AND PROVIDING THE ESTABLISHED COMPANIES AND PROJECTS WITH RESEARCH AND QUALIFIED SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL.
F. MAKING THE NECESSARY STUDIES AND ARRANGEMENTS TO DEVELOPE THE KUWAIT NATIONAL PETROLEUM COMPANY AND MAKE IT THE EXECUTIVE ORGAN OF THE OIL MINISTRY.

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3. COMMENT: AS INDICATED REFTELS ONCE KAZEMI ACCOMPLISHED DISMEMBERMENT OF KOGEC, HIS NEXT STEP WAS TO CREAT SIMILAR INDUSTRY-WIDE COORDINATING BODY WITHIN MOO ITSELF UNDER HIS DIRECT CONTROL. INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT PETROCHEMICALS ACTIVITIES WILL BE INCLUDED ALONG WITH GAS AND REFINING ACTIVITIES. KAZEMI HAS STATED THAT KNPC WILL PLAY MAJOR ROLE IN INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERICAL ASPECTS OF OIL POLICY, BUT EVEN WITHIN KNPC THERE SOME UNCERTAINTY OVER WHERE ITS MANDATE ENDS AND THAT OF PIC BEGINS. PRESUMABLY PRESENCE OF BOTH ABD AL-BAQI NOURI AND AHMAD MUTAIR ON PICSC WILL SERVE TO AVIOD
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SONFLICTS EARLY IN PROJECT INDENTIFICATION AND ASSIGNMENT PROCESS. WE THINK FORMATION OF COMMITTEE, ON BALANCE, IS WISE STEP AS GOK BEGINS SEVERAL MAJOR PETROLEUM RELATED PROJECTS AND AS IT CONTINUES TO SEEK CUSTOMERS FOR ITS CRUDE OIL. UNLIKE KOGEC, HOWEVER, PICSC IS NOT RPT NOT A COMPANY, AND IT THEREFORE IS NOT AS SHIELDED FROM NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MEDDLING AS KOGEC WOULD HAVE BEEN. FOR KAZEMI, HOWEVER, IT OBVIOUSLY WAS MORE IMPORTANT TO GAIN PERSONAL CONTROL OVER ALL

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ASPECTS OF OIL POLICY EVEN IF SOME OVERALL EFFICIENCY WAS LOST
IN PROCESS.
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